ENGLISH 1301 – ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1

FALL SEMESTER 2015

Tarrant County College

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

Prerequisite: TSI complete

Course Type: Academic core

Required textbook and materials

PERSPECTIVES ON ARGUMENT, Nancy Wood, 6th edition

A notebook for journal entries and class notes

A working computer and internet access

Course goals and Learning Outcomes

With emphasis on writing as a process, English 1301 includes principles of composition and rhetorical skills necessary for clear, logical writing and basic computer competency.

Students should complete this class knowing how to successfully use the writing process, including prewriting, planning, thesis statement writing, drafting, revising and editing.

Students should also demonstrate college-level computer competency; understand and analyze the rhetorical situation, including audience, purpose and text; use and improve the use of basic writing conventions; present and work cooperatively; participate in class discussions by contributing valuable information and opinions in the class; adhere to deadline and course procedures.

Students should spend as much time on this subject outside of class as inside of class in order to be successful. Students who miss class are responsible for what happens in class that day. The best way to find out what you have missed is to email me for information.

You must bring your book to class every day. You will need a notebook for journal entries and class notes. You also must have a reliable computer with internet access.

Attendance: Regular and punctual attendance to class is very important for student success. It is your responsibility to let me know if you will be absent from class due to a school-sanctioned event and to arrange to turn in/or complete your work. I will record absences for each class period.

Course Assessment

You will be evaluated on a series of writing assignments amounting to a minimum of 4000 words. Other tasks may include in-class work, homework, quizzes and exams, journals, oral presentations, participation in class and group work. All major writing assignments must be turned in via TurnItin through Blackboard. In addition, you will submit a typed copy of your work to me. There will be 4 major essays completed in this course for this semester.

I WILL ALLOW YOU TO REWRITE ONE ESSAY DURING THIS COURSE.

When each major essay is assigned, you will be given information on how it will be graded.

Grading Scale:

90-100% - A

89-90% - B

70-79% - C

60-69% - D

0-50% - F

Formal essays – 60%. Informal writing assignments, class work, presentations and other tasks – 20%. Attendance – 20%. I expect you to be present and ready to participate in each class session. WORK IS DUE ON THE DAY ASSIGNED UNLESS YOU HAVE MADE PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME! This includes, but is not limited to, any school related activity.

Late Work Policy:

You will lose 10 points for each day you are late with an assignment. After 2 days, you will receive a zero.

Classroom Behavior: I expect courtesy and respect from all of my students, both towards me and all the members of this class.

Participation: Your grade will be influenced by your active participation in class. If you do not come to class and participate you could receive a zero for participation that day.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

You are expected to do your OWN work at all times. Plagiarism is a very serious matter which could result in your receiving a zero on an assignment. I expect all students to adhere to the rules, guidelines, and policies in the TC CD Student Handbook pertaining to scholastic dishonesty. Please see page 41 of the online TCCD handbook.

We will discuss what constitutes plagiarism regularly throughout this class.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS WILL POSTED ON BLACKBOARD.

I am excited to be here and am looking forward to a great semester! Dr. Martin